

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute the attached Listing of Claims for all prior claims of record.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-47 (Cancelled.)

Claim 48. (Previously Presented) A method of securing a screw (14) in a hole (18, 20) of a fixture (12) comprising the steps of:

- (i) providing a plug (16) which is adapted to receive and frictionally hold therein the screw (14);
- (ii) preforming a hole (18) in the fixture (12);
- (iii) inserting the plug (16) in the hole (18); and
- (iv) applying the screw (14) to the plug (16) and rotating the screw (14) to advance it into engagement with and retention in the plug (16) thereby to secure the screw (14) in the fixture (12); and

when the plug (16) does not engage with a wall defining the hole (20) in a manner sufficient to prevent rotation of the plug (16) with the screw (14) on rotation of the screw (14), the hole (20) being thus over-sized in relation to the plug (16) and the plug (16) being carried only loosely in the hole (20), performing the steps of:

- (a) providing at least one piece of a loosely-woven fabric (26 or 30) carrying consolidated thereon a quick-setting filler

material (28), which fabric piece (26 or 30) is sized to envelop at least circumferentially the plug (16);

- (b) withdrawing the plug (16) from the hole (20);
- (c) causing activation of the filler material (28) thereby to initiate hardening and eventual setting of the filler material (28);
- (d) placing the fabric piece (26 or 30) symmetrically over one end of the plug (16) and smoothing it longitudinally along the plug (16) so as to envelop the plug circumferentially in a substantially uniform manner;
- (e) inserting the enveloped plug (16, 26, 30, 28) without delay in the over-sized hole (20) in a manner such as to ensure filling of the oversized hole (20) with the enveloped plug (16, 26, 30, 28) whereby when the filler material (28) has hardened to prevent rotation of the plug (16) on rotation of the screw (14) to advance it into the plug (16); and
- (f) reapplying the screw (14) to the plug (16) only after the filler material (28) has at least partially hardened and rotating the screw (14) to advance the screw (14) into engagement with and retention in the plug (16) without rotation of the plug (16) thereby securing the screw (14) in the fixture (12).

Claim 49. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 48 wherein the fabric piece (26 or 30) is shaped substantially in the form of at least one of a square, a polygon and a circle.

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- Claim 50. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 48 wherein the fabric piece (26 or 30) is circular in shape.
- Claim 51. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 48 wherein the filler material (28) is water activated.
- Claim 52. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 51 wherein the filler material (28) comprises plaster of paris.
- Claim 53. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 51 wherein the filler material (28) comprises a quick-setting material manufactured from gypsum other than plaster of paris.
- Claim 54. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 48 wherein the filler material (28) has mixed with it short, strength-enhancing fibres of a material capable of strengthening the filler material when set.
- Claim 55. (Previously Presented) A method of securing a screw (14) in a hole (18, 20) of a fixture (12) comprises the steps of:
- (i) providing a plug (16) which is adapted to receive and frictionally hold therein the screw (14);
 - (ii) preforming a hole (18) in the fixture (12);
 - (iii) inserting the plug (16) in the hole (18); and
 - (iv) applying the screw (14) to the plug (16) and rotating the screw (14) to advance it into engagement with and retention

in the plug (16) thereby to secure the screw (14) in the fixture (12); and

when the plug (16) does not engage with a wall defining the hole (20) in a manner sufficient to prevent rotation of the plug (16) with the screw (14) on rotation of the screw (14), the hole (20) being thus over-sized in relation to the plug (16) and the plug (16) being carried only loosely in the hole (20), performing the steps of:

- (a) providing at least one piece of a loosely-woven fabric (26 or 30) carrying consolidated thereon a quick-setting filler material (28), which fabric piece (26 or 30) is sized to envelop at least circumferentially the plug (16);
- (b) withdrawing the plug (16) from the hole (20);
- (c) causing activation of the filler material (28) thereby to initiate hardening and eventual setting of the filler material (28);
- (d) placing the fabric piece (26 or 30) symmetrically over the hole (20);
- (e) placing one end of the plug (16) against the fabric piece (26 or 30);
- (f) pressing the plug (16) into the hole (20) without delay thereby causing (i) the fabric piece (26 or 30) to envelop the plug (16) circumferentially as it is carried by and with the plug (16) into the hole (20), and (ii) the plug, fabric piece and filler material to fill the oversized hole (20) whereby when the filler material (28) has hardened to prevent

rotation of the plug (16) on rotation of the screw (14) to advance it into the plug (16); and

- (e) reapplying the screw (14) to the plug (16) only after the filler material (28) has at least partially hardened and rotating the screw (14) to advance the screw (14) into engagement with and retention in the plug (16) without rotation of the plug (16) thereby securing the screw (14) in the fixture (12).

Claim 56. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 55 wherein the fabric piece (26 or 30) is shaped substantially in the form of at least one of a square, a polygon and a circle.

Claim 57. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 55 wherein the fabric piece (26 or 30) is circular in shape.

Claim 58. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 55 wherein the filler material (28) is water activated.

Claim 59. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 58 wherein the filler material (28) comprises plaster of paris.

Claim 60. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 58 wherein the filler material (28) comprises a quick-setting material manufactured from gypsum other than plaster of paris.

Claim 61. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 55 wherein the filler material (28) has mixed with it short, strength-enhancing fibres of a material capable of strengthening the filler material when set.

Claim 62. (Previously Presented) A method of securing a screw (14) in a hole (18, 20) of a fixture (12) comprising the steps of:

- (i) providing a plug (16) adapted to receive and frictionally hold therein the screw (14);
- (ii) preforming a hole (18) in the fixture (12);
- (iii) inserting the plug (16) in the hole (18); and
- (iv) applying the screw (14) to the plug (16) and rotating the screw (14) to advance it into engagement with and retention in the plug (16) thereby to secure the screw (14) in the fixture (12); and

when the plug (16) does not engage with a wall defining the hole (20) in a manner sufficient to prevent rotation of the plug (16) with the screw (14) on rotation of the screw (14), the hole (20) being thus over-sized in relation to the plug (16) and the plug (16) being carried only loosely in the hole (20), performing the steps of:

- (a) providing at least one piece of a loosely-woven fabric (26 or 30) carrying consolidated thereon a quick-setting, air-activated filler material (28), which fabric piece (26 or 30) is sized to envelop at least circumferentially the plug (16);
- (b) withdrawing the plug (16) from the hole (20) and enveloping it at least circumferentially in the fabric piece (26 or 30);

- (c) causing activation of the filler material (28) thereby to initiate hardening and eventual setting of the filler material (28);
- (d) inserting the enveloped plug (16, 26, 30, 28) without delay in the over-sized hole (20) in manner such as to ensure filling of the oversized hole (20) with the enveloped plug (16, 26, 30, 28), whereby when the filler material (28) has hardened to prevent rotation of the plug (16) on rotation of the screw (14) to advance it into the plug (16); and
- (e) reapplying the screw (14) to the plug (16) only after the filler material (28) has at least partially hardened and rotating the screw (14) to advance the screw (14) into engagement with and retention in the plug (16) without rotation of the plug (16) thereby securing the screw (14) in the fixture (12).

Claim 63. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 62 wherein the fabric piece (26 or 30) is shaped substantially in the form of at least one of a square, a polygon and a circle.

Claim 64. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 62 wherein the fabric piece (26 or 30) is circular in shape.

Claim 65. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 62 wherein the filler material (28) comprises a polyurethane resin.

Claim 66. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 62 wherein the filler material (28) has mixed with it short, strength-enhancing fibres of a material capable of strengthening the filler material when set.

Claims 67-68. (Cancelled.)

Claim 69. (Currently Amended) ~~The method as defined in claim 67 wherein~~
A method of securing a screw (14) in a hole (18, 20) of a fixture (12) comprising the steps of:

- (i) providing a plug (16) which is adapted to receive and frictionally hold therein the screw (14);
- (ii) preforming a hole (18) in the fixture (12);
- (iii) Inserting the plug (16) in the hole (18); and
- (iv) applying the screw (14) to the plug (16) and rotating the screw (14) to advance it into engagement with and retention in the plug (16) thereby to secure the screw (14) in the fixture (12); and

when the plug (16) does not engage with a wall defining the hole (20) in a manner sufficient to prevent rotation of the plug (16) with the screw (14) on rotation of the screw (14), the hole (20) being thus over-sized in relation to the plug (16) and the plug (16) being carried only loosely in the hole (20), performing the steps of:

- (a) providing at least one piece of a loosely-woven fabric (26 or 30) carrying consolidated thereon a quick-setting filler

- material (28), which fabric piece (26 or 30) is sized to envelop at least circumferentially the plug (16);
- (b) withdrawing the plug (16) from the hole (20) and enveloping it at least circumferentially in the fabric piece (26 or 30);
- (c) causing activation of the filler material (28) thereby to initiate hardening and eventual setting of the filler material (28);
- (d) inserting the enveloped plug (16, 26, 30, 28) without delay in the over-sized hole (20) in a manner such as to ensure filling of the oversized hole (20) with the enveloped plug (16, 26, 30, 28) whereby when the filler material (28) has hardened to prevent rotation of the plug (16) on rotation of the screw (14) to advance it into the plug (16);
- (e) reapplying the screw (14) to the plug (16) only after the filler material (28) has at least partially hardened and rotating the screw (14) to advance the screw (14) into engagement with and retention in the plug (16) without rotation of the plug (16) thereby securing the screw (14) in the fixture (12); and
- (f) the fabric piece (26 or 30) is circular in shape.

Claim 70. (Cancelled.)

- Claim 71. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 48 wherein the fabric piece is loosely-woven fabric (26 or 30) carrying consolidated thereon a quick-setting filler material and which is sized for use with the plug (16) and shaped substantially in the form of at least one of a square, a polygon and a circle.
- Claim 72. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 55 wherein the fabric piece is loosely-woven fabric (26 or 30) carrying consolidated thereon a quick-setting filler material and which is sized for use with the plug (16) and shaped substantially in the form of at least one of a square, a polygon and a circle.
- Claim 73. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 62 wherein the fabric piece is loosely-woven fabric (26 or 30) carrying consolidated thereon a quick-setting filler material and which is sized for use with the plug (16) and shaped substantially in the form of at least one of a square, a polygon and a circle.
- Claim 74. (Cancelled.)
- Claim 75. (Previously Presented) The method as defined claim 48 wherein the fabric piece (26 or 30) is pre-united with the plug (16) as a single unit (44) ready-for-use when required.

Claim 76. (Previously Presented) The method as defined claim 55 wherein the fabric piece (26 or 30) is pre-united with the plug (16) as a single unit (44) ready-for-use when required.

Claim 77. (Previously Presented) The method as defined claim 62 wherein the fabric piece (26 or 30) is pre-united with the plug (16) as a single unit (44) ready-for-use when required.

Claim 78. (Cancelled.)